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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 100  
By Pinion

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Thomas E. Bruff, Jr. upon accepting a position with the Nashville Superspeedway, to thank him for his exemplary work for the General Assembly, and to bid him a fond farewell.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly takes pleasure in acknowledging the exemplary work and demonstrated ability of those members of its staff who exhibit extraordinary talent, initiative and drive in the performance of their duties for this Body and for the people of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, for seven years Mr. Thomas E. Bruff, Jr. has been an outstanding employee and an invaluable resource of this General Assembly in several roles; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bruff, a native of Union City in Obion County, graduated from Union City High School; he then earned his Bachelor's degree from the University of Tennessee at Martin; and

WHEREAS, in January of 1993, Thomas Bruff came to work for the Tennessee House of Representatives under the leadership of Speaker Jimmy O. Naifeh of Covington; he was

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employed in the Chief Clerk's Office as a clerk who was responsible for all health-related committees; and

WHEREAS, following his first legislative session, Mr. Bruff was transferred to the Executive Branch to serve as legislative assistant to the Assistant Commissioner of the Bureau of TennCare during the implementation of the TennCare program, which began in January of 1994; and

WHEREAS, when the General Assembly appointed the Select Oversight Committee on TennCare, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Jimmy Naifeh, and the Speaker of the Senate, Lieutenant Governor John S. Wilder, appointed Thomas Bruff as the committee's executive aide; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bruff embraced his duties and responsibilities with energy and enthusiasm, working diligently and tirelessly to ensure that all Tennesseans received the highest quality of health care; he unselfishly worked to assist both legislators and staff concerning TennCare and related matters; and

WHEREAS, in 1995, because of his expertise and knowledge in the area, he was christened as "T. Tommy TennCare" by the Speaker of the House and will forever be so known; in 2001, having assured himself of his indispensability to all and sundry, he blithely left his legislative family to accept a position with the Nashville Superspeedway; and

WHEREAS, his departure from the General Assembly has created a void in the hearts of legislators and staff of the House of Representatives and the Senate which will not easily be filled; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we congratulate Thomas E. Bruff, Jr. upon accepting a position with the Nashville Superspeedway and thank him for the exemplary service which he has performed for the General Assembly, its staff, and the people of Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we bid him a fond farewell and wish him every success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.